

BIENNIAL REPORT
— OF THE —
TRUSTEES AND SUPERINTENDENT
— OF THE —
Institute for the Blind,
— TO THE —
HON. J. M. STONE, GOVERNOR,
AND THROUGH HIM TO THE LEGIS-
LATURE OF THE
State of Mississippi,
— FOR THE —
YEARS 1894 AND 1895.

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY.

JACKSON, MISS.:
CLARION-LEDGER PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

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OFFICERS FOR 1894 AND 1895.

TRUSTEES.

HIS EXCELLENCY J. M. STONE, GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT.

E. M. PARKER,

S. E. VIRDEN,

J. T. H. LAIRD,

PERCY LEMLY,

H. H. HINES.

SUPERINTENDENT.

DR. P. FAIRLY.

MISS RHODA CARR,

First Literary Teacher.

MISS AGNES GREEN,

Second Literary Teacher.

MISS SOPHIE D. LANGLEY,

Music Teacher.

MISS REBECCA SMITH,

Teacher in Handicraft.

CHAS. EDMONSON,

Shopmaster.

MISS HALLIE LANGLEY,

Matron.

ADAM HORREAT,

Night Watchman.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Hon. J. M. Stone, Governor, Etc.:

We herewith have the honor to present to you, and through you, to the Legislature, our biennial report as Trustees of the Institute for the Blind for the years 1894 and 1895, and most respectfully call your attention to the full report herein contained of the Superintendent and the itemized statement of the Secretary of the expenditures.

We desire to return to you as President of the Board of Trustees our heartfelt thanks for your patience and forbearance with us in the discharge of our duties, and for the benefit of your experience and counsel in the management of the institution.

E. M. PARKER,
J. T. H. LAIRD,
H. H. HINES,
P. LEMLY,
S. E. VIRDEN,
Board of Trustees.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Blind Institute held at the Executive office January 7, 1896, Hon. J. M. Stone, ex-officio President, in the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The official term of our present worthy Superintendent has well nigh expired; and

WHEREAS, We as Trustees of this institution deem it but our pleasant duty to express our high appreciation of his character as a man and his worth as an officer; therefore,

Resolved, That in Dr. Fairly as Superintendent for the Institution for the Blind, we have all the qualities that go to make up a model officer, a Christian gentleman and one whom we love to honor.

Resolved further, That while we do not wish to dictate to the incoming administration, we would be pleased to add one more laurel wreath to the brow of Dr. Fairly, the Superintendent of the Institution for the Blind, and have him made his own successor.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this board, and a copy furnished to the Hon. A. J. McLaurin, the incoming Governor.

WHEREAS, The official term of Hon. J. M. Stone as President of this board has expired; and

WHEREAS, We desire to express our appreciation of his worth and our thanks for his kind and friendly advice in the administration of the affairs of the Blind Institute; therefore be it

Resolved, That we find in Hon. J. M. Stone all the qualifications of a gentleman, a true Christian and a faithful and conservative officer of the State, and that our hearts will ever go out to him wherever his lot may be cast through life,

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the minutes and a copy furnished Hon. J. M. Stone.

IN MEMORIAM.

At a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for the Blind, held at the Executive office June 22, 1895, His Excellency, Gov. Stone, Ex-officio President of the Board in the chair, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, This Board has learned with sorrow of the death of one of its most respected and useful members, Hon. C. H. Manship, which occurred at his residence in this city on the 21st instant; therefore,

Resolved, That in his death this board has lost one of its most valued and honored members, the community one of its oldest and most highly respected citizens, and society a good and worthy man.

Resolved further, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the family of the deceased, and the city papers requested to publish the same.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the Mississippi Institution of the Blind :

GENTLEMEN—In presenting this, my third biennial report of this institution, it affords me great pleasure to state that the pupils have made commendable progress in all their studies, including the literary, musical and mechanical departments; and as there are quarterly reports made to the Board of Trustees showing the progress of pupils in the various branches taught in the institution, I do not consider it necessary to dwell upon this point at length here.

The general health of the school has been excellent; we have been entirely free from epidemic diseases during the last two years. The attendance has not fallen below the average. A full list of pupils' names for 1894-'5 will be found in this report. We expect several other pupils to come in the latter half of the session.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

The design of this department is to give the students a fair English education. The course of study pursued is nearly the same as that taught in the public schools of the State. We use both the raised Roman print and the New York print, with especial attention given to the mastery of the latter, inasmuch as it was decided at a recent meeting of the Educators of the Blind from the United States and Canada that all new books should be printed in the New York[™] print. The constant aim in the school-room is to make the studies attractive to pupils, to awaken a real live interest in each study and stimulate the pupil to a healthy mental activity, and there are encouraging evidences that this aim has in a large measure been accomplished. There are nightly readings, also, that are enjoyed by students and teachers as well.

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

This department is one in which the blind especially excel. A mistaken idea prevails that they learn music by ear,

and that they take only an inferior class of music, while the facts are, that they learn by note—more slowly, it is true—but quite as thoroughly as do the seeing, and they master really difficult productions of the best musical composers. In this department they are given piano and vocal instruction. No provision has been made for instruction on other instruments, though this could be of inestimable value to them as it would open up to some, who evidently have talent, a new and lucrative means of self-support. The students of this department have recently organized a musical club, which promises to be a source of pleasure and profit to them.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

In this department the boys are taught broom-making, chair-seating and mattress-making. The girls are taught plain sewing by hand and machine; also, they learn to knit and crochet. Both small boys and girls learn to do bead-work. The boys become well versed in the three trades taught them, and go out from the Institution well equipped to make a support by manual labor; not so with the girls, and it has ever been a grave question what we are to do with our blind girls when educated. Many of them have reached a high grade of scholarship, comparing favorably with seeing students in such studies as English, arithmetic, history and some sciences, and often surpassing the seeing in musical attainments. But actual experience has taught me that seeing teachers advance pupils more rapidly and are more thorough in their instruction than are blind teachers, though there are positions in the school-room that the latter can and do fill, and that, too, with credit to themselves.

But as it is wholly impossible for all to obtain such places, I simply ask the question, after being thoroughly educated as many of them are, what then shall we do with them? True, some of them realize a little profit from their handiwork, a few of them make something by teaching; still they are not, and I do not see how they can ever be self-supporting. This fact is a somewhat discouraging one until we remember what their lives would be without the training they get here. If we fail to make them entirely independent of others in sustaining themselves, we at least broaden their necessarily contracted lives and develop their mental faculties so that they become intelligent members of society. Their knowledge of literature and music not only fits them to enjoy the society of cultivated people, but enables them to contribute not a little to the pleas-

ure of those with whom they associate, and certainly it is our duty to do all in our power to perfect the mental, moral and physical growth of their darkened lives.

PIANO TUNING FOR THE BLIND.

In my last report I asked for an appropriation to establish the branch of piano tuning in the Institution, but the request was not granted. There are not many trades open to blind boys that they can make remunerative. I consider it a loss of time and an unnecessary expenditure of money, to teach a blind boy a trade, in the prosecution of which, he will be forced to compete with machinery, though this is being done in some institutions of the United States. Piano tuning cannot be done by machinery, and, moreover, the blind are naturally fitted for this work, characterized as they are by acute hearing and a finely developed sense of touch, and in most cases a love for music. The trade can be made a very profitable one to them, and I hope the incoming Legislature will make the necessary appropriation to establish this branch in the Institution and give to those deprived of sight every possible means of self-support.

TYPE-WRITING.

The last Legislature made an appropriation of \$200 with which to purchase type-writers for the institution. The machines were purchased and the students showed great facility in learning to use them. We had no one who could constantly overlook those who practiced upon them, consequently they suffered some damage and abuse, but we have recently had them repaired.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

All students are required to attend morning and evening devotional exercises, also to attend some church on Sunday morning and Sabbath school at the institution Sunday afternoon.

FINANCIAL NEEDS.

The financial affairs of the institution for the past two years has been conducted upon a very economical basis by the Board of Trustees, and I think the usual appropriation for support will be sufficient. The appropriation made two years ago for repairs was wholly inadequate to put the building in the condition it ought to be, and as the building

is one which will be used for years to come, it should not be permitted to go into decay.

There is also much needed a work-shop, as the one now in use is in a dilapidated condition and wholly unfit for the business carried on in it.

CONCLUSION.

In June last we were called upon to mourn the death of Mr. C. H. Manship, who for the past twenty years had been a member of our Board of Trustees, and who was one of our most respected and revered citizens. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-three years, and had been a citizen of this city fifty-nine years. He was a man of great moral worth, exhibiting throughout life remarkable decision of character and firmness of purpose. He favored all purposes that tended to the welfare of the institution.

To Governor Stone, whose watchful eye has ever guarded the best interests of the institution, and to each individual member of the Board of Trustees, I hereby tender my sincere and profound thanks for uniform courtesies extended me, and the deep and unfailing interest they have manifested toward the prosperity of the institution. Acknowledgments are due also to the following papers: *Commercial-Herald, The Messenger, Tablet, Washingtonian, Institute Herald, Goodson's Gazette, Institute News and Musical World.*

Respectfully submitted,

P. FAIRLY, Superintendent.

LIST OF PUPILS FOR 1894-95

Name.	County.
1. Barnes, Samuel (dismissed).....	Copiah
2. Buckley, Noel.....	Copiah
3. Byrd, Julia.....	Perry
4. Colquehoun, Hattie.....	Rankin
5. Clark, T. J.....	Yazoo
6. Cox, A. B.....	Jones
7. Cox, Cora.....	Jones
8. Crenshaw, Mary.....	Tallahatchie
9. Cummings, Virgie.....	Oktibbeha
10. Curry, Mattie.....	Grenada
11. Charles, Ida.....	Prentiss
12. Edmondson, Charles.....	Perry
13. Edmondson, Jane.....	Perry
14. English, Walter.....	Prentiss
15. Foster, John.....	Winston
16. Freeman, Carlina.....	Jefferson
17. Guyton, David.....	Tippah
18. Holder, Alice.....	Jefferson
19. Hickman, Benjamin.....	Lawrence
20. Irwin, Eugene.....	Yalobusha
21. Johnson, Mary.....	DeSoto
22. Johnson, Cora.....	DeSoto
23. Lefoldt, Richard.....	Warren
24. Musselwhite, Stephen.....	Yalobusha
25. Musselwhite, Lewis.....	Carroll
26. Musselwhite, Harry.....	Carroll
27. Moore, Thomas.....	Leflore
28. Martin, John.....	Harrison
29. Murray, Ernest.....	Lauderdale
30. Mason, Alice.....	Bolivar
31. Meyers, Yelda.....	Lowndes
32. Price, Adah.....	Hinds
33. Pruitte, Ottie.....	Lafayette
34. Rubush, Charles M.....	Lauderdale
35. Smith, Amy.....	Holmes
36. Smith, Hulon.....	Rankin
37. Steed, Joseph.....	Attala
38. Stovall, Myrtie.....	Tippah
39. Davis, Jane.....	Union
40. Davis, Edward.....	Union
41. Turner, Pearl.....	Union

Rules for the Mississippi Institute for the Blind.

1st. The pupils are required to rise at 6 A. M. and to retire at 9 P. M. After the first of April they shall rise at 5:30 A. M. Breakfast will be at 7 A. M., dinner at 1 P. M., and supper at 6 P. M.

2d. School will begin at 8:30 A.M. and continue until 1 P.M. From 2 P.M. till 5 o'clock the pupils will receive instruction in sewing, bead-work and shop-work.

3d. Pupils are forbidden to leave the premises without the consent of the Superintendent. On Saturdays, when necessary, the boys may go down town with the permission of the Superintendent, and shall in all cases return in time for meals.

4th. The use of tobacco in the house is forbidden. Spitting on the floor about the registers and doors is strictly forbidden. Also profane and indecent language.

5th. The boys and girls are prohibited from holding any communication whatever with one another in the house or on the premises.

6th. All are forbidden to go into the parlor, dining-room, music-room or kitchen without permission.

7th. Lounging on the beds during the day is strictly forbidden. The books are on no account to be carried out of the study room.

8th. All loud noises, such as talking, singing, slamming of doors, running up and down stairs, is strictly forbidden.

9th. The pupils must not cross the center hall without permission, except on business with the officers. No promenading can be allowed on the lower floor. Also the small pupils are forbidden to touch the registers and faucets.

10th. All ungentlemanly and unladylike conduct must be promptly reported to the Superintendent by the officer under whose observation it may come. Any grave or serious offense will be at once reported to the Trustees.

11th. Unless prevented by sickness, the pupils are required to attend church on Sunday morning, all leaving the Institution in a body at 10:30. They will attend Sunday school at the Institution at 3 P.M.

12th. On the last Friday in the month each pupil may write one letter home. A postal may also be written if desired.

13th. The pupils will assemble for reading at 7 P.M., which will be followed by prayer.

Itemized Statement Of Expenditures

FOR THE YEARS 1894-'5.

Brought forward.....	\$ 2253 41
Appropriation for 1894	8661 00
Appropriation for 1895.....	7661 00 \$ 18,575 40

EXPENDITURES FOR 1894-'5 AS FOLLOWS:

Axle Grease.....	\$ 25
Bran.....	123 75
Butter.....	303 02
Bread.....	4 30
Baking Powder.....	159 56
Berries.....	17 05
Blacking and Brushes.....	9 93
Beans.....	12 60
Beads and Wire.....	28 03
Bluing.....	2 87
Coffee.....	302 11
Clothing.....	134 35
Candles.....	36 03
Confectioneries.....	8 70
Cheese.....	97 10
Commutation.....	180 00
Crackers.....	39 05
Cows and Calves.....	50 00
Corn.....	70 66
Combs and brushes.....	4 05
Coal.....	247 94
Canned Fruits and Vegetables.....	25 12
Cotton, Cottonseed, Meal and Hulls.....	100 53
Drugs and Medicine.....	130 70
Extracts and Spices.....	22 55
Eggs and Poultry.....	77 36
Express and Postage.....	29 05
Extra Labor.....	144 75
Expenses for Superintendent to Visit Chatauqua.....	100 00
Flour.....	273 68
Fruits, Lemons, Etc.....	40 80
Furniture.....	23 25
Fruits (dried).....	33 42
Fertilizers.....	6 00
Freight.....	39 34
Gas.....	204 90
Grits.....	41 55
Glass and Putty.....	2 65
Hose (garden).....	6 25

ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS.—CONTINUED.

Hardware and Crockery.....	\$ 124 30
Hams.....	222 20
House Furnishings.....	309 59
Hops.....	10
Hay.....	51 01
Hack Hire.....	50
Ice.....	65
Ice-cream.....	10 00
Lard.....	310 47
Lye.....	3 60
Lime.....	1 00
Lumber.....	11 20
Merchandise.....	7 01
Meat, Salt.....	250 84
Meat, Fresh.....	1008 91
Molasses.....	85 37
Meal.....	134 91
Maccaroni.....	39 50
Mackerel.....	90
Matches.....	2 39
Music, Musical Instruments and Repairs on same.....	116 84
Mince Meat.....	4 00
Milk.....	46 67
Mustard.....	1 37
Needles.....	2 70
Nuts.....	6 33
Oats.....	54 10
Oat Meal.....	7 40
Oysters.....	3 35
Oil, Lamps, Wicks, etc.....	45 95
Potatoes.....	151 18
Preserves.....	1 10
Printing.....	30 10
Pickles.....	31 05
Piano.....	500 00
Pepper.....	3 89
Paint and Brushes.....	95
Rice.....	158 75
Range, Cooking.....	100 00
Repairs on Building.....	448 36
Repairs, Sundry.....	182 10
Stationery, Books, etc.....	76 85
Sugar.....	250 68
Soap.....	105 58
Shop Material.....	341 76
Salt.....	9 72
Starch.....	17 51
Sardines.....	6 45
Shrubbery, Flowers, etc.....	6 20
Seed, Garden and Flowers.....	29 63
Salaries and Wages.....	6964 71
Tea.....	17 03
Telephone.....	96 00
Thermometer.....	3 00
Ticks, making.....	32 30

ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS.—CONTINUED.

Twine	\$ 1 60
Type-writers	200 00
Toilet Paper	15 00
Transportation	200 00
Vegetables	58 65
Vinegar	7 50
Wood	108 00
Wooden and Willow Ware	5 75
Wagons and Harness	3 40
Wine for Sick Pupils	1 00
Total	\$ 16,662 11
To Balance	1913 29
	\$ 18,575 40

